SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
MODELING TASK FORCE
September 26, 2012

MINUTES

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MODELING TASK FORCE.

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on September 26, 2012.

Members Present:

Anup Kulkarni (Chair)	OCTA
Deepak Kanshik	Iteris
Deborah Diep	Cal State Fullerton
Firooz Hamedani	Caltrans – District 12
Gail Shiomoto-Lohr	City of Mission Viejo
Gus Jimenez	Fehr & Peers
Jennifer Emerson	CH2M Hill
Jielin Sun	Parsons Brinkerhoff
Jinghua Xu	Parsons Brinkerhoff
Mehul Champaneri	AECOM
Nino Maclang	OCTA
Paul Burke	Metro
Robert Farley	Metro
Tim Byrne	SANBAG
Tony Van Haagen	Caltrans – District 7
Ying Zhu	LA Metro

(Via Webmeeting):

Ali Banava
Charlie Ho
Garlynn Woodsong
Henning Eichler
Mana Sangkapichai
Rosella Picado

SCAG Staff Present:

Arnie Sherwood	Sungbin Cho
Cheryl Leising (via web-conference)	Sungsu Yoon
Guoxiong Huang	Ying Zhou
Hao Cheng	Yongping Zhang
Hsi-Hwa Hu	
JungA Uhm	
Mike Ainsworth	
Naresh Amatya	
Rajeev Seetharam	

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1.0   CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Anup Kulkarni (OCTA) Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM and introductions were made.

2.0   PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0   CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1   Approval Items

The July 25, 2012 meeting minutes were approved.

4.0   INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Updates on Subregional Modeling Programs

Tim Byrne (SANBAG) discussed the development of their subregional model - SBTAM. Parsons Brinkerhoff developed the mode based on SCAG's Regional Model. SANBAG is beginning the application of the model within the county. SANBAG is currently developing processes and procedures to obtain the model for project analysis and plans to continue with SCAG and Caliper with future updates to the SMDT tool. The full model takes about 36 hours to run.

Robert Farley (Metro) reported that they are in the midst of their on-board survey process. Metro is also hoping to update the network topologies and zone systems so that there is consistency between Metro's and SCAG's model and data.

Nino Maclang provided an overview of the new OCTA analysis model, version 3.4. Improvements include a new base year, 2010 from 2005, and updates to model inputs and assumptions.

4.2 Urban Footprint Model

Garlynn Woodsong from Calthorpe Associates presented the UrbanFootprint Model, the scenario planning tool designed to assist cities and SCAG to test growth and transportation alternatives in preparation for the 2016 RTP/SCS. The presentation covered the following topics: Overview, Potential to Assist Regional & Local Planning, and Future Improvements to the UrbanFootprint Model.

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The UrbanFootprint Model that Calthorpe developed came about because the company saw the need for a more advanced system for land use planning that what was currently available. The model is a 64-bit open source platform for scenario planning. It is currently loaded with all major California MPO databases. Being open source, the model is faster and more efficient than running under ArcGIS. Also discussed and shown on the presentation were the "Thin Client" User Interface and the Urban Footprint model components.

The UrbanFootprint Model can assist in regional and local planning by improving coordination between subregions, regions and local users. This model has the potential to assist regional and local planning by streamlining the RTP/SCS process. The Model will be customized to reflect the SCAG region (meeting the specific needs of local users—subregions and cities). It has a web-based interface, so it is easy to use. Future improvements include: upgraded engines, performance optimization, and an upgrade to 3D.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at: http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm

4.3 LACMTA's Transit On-Board Survey

Robert Farley (LACMTA) gave a presentation on LACMTA's 2011-2013 On-Board Survey. The Survey is being conducted to obtain ridership information. In the past, paper surveys were given and filled out by passengers while onboard the bus, but there were not a very high number of the surveys being completed for various reasons: burden on the passenger, long questionnaire that was intimidating, difficult, and responses were ambiguous.

With the new FTA 5339 Grant, the new on-board survey should be easier to fill out, shorter and give the ability to obtain better and more complete "quality" data. The survey will be taken by using both paper and telephone and participants will be entered into a drawing for completing the survey. Also discussed were the challenges and tracking and double checking of the survey answers.

The Muni Bus Survey is to start in the Fall 2012/Spring 2013. Both MTA's bus and rail survey records have been delivered. They are currently working on the Auto Access Augment Survey, which will focus on the mode of access to the stations.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at: http://www.scag.ca.gov/modeling/mtf/index.htm

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5.0   CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

6.0   STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING

There was no Staff Report.

7.0   FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8.0   ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:52 am. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on November 28, 2012 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 9:30 am.